April 15, 2019

Mary Jo Galindo, Chair Historic Landmark Commission

The purpose of this memo is to state the Urban Renewal Board's strong preference for current, potential or recommended historic landmarks within the boundaries of the East 11th and 12th Street Urban Renewal Plan to be renovated in their current location and not be moved.

The Urban Renewal Board authorized this memo on March 18, 2019. Preserving historic buildings is crucial to retaining what is left of the East 11th and 12th Street's history and protects the area's cultural heritage. Renovation and rehabilitation of existing structures, especially in the case of properties identified as historic landmarks or contributing to historical character, as opposed to demolition or relocation is consistent with the community's vision in the Urban Renewal Plan for East 12th Street. This also supports the mission of Six Square in preserving and celebrating the rich cultural legacy of Austin's African American community in Austin's African American Cultural Heritage District.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Urban Renewal Board staff liaison, Sandra Harkins, at 512.974.3128 or at sandra.harkins@austintexas.gov.

Sincerely,

Joseph S. Babb, Chair Urban Renewal Board of the City of Austin